VOLUME 117, No. 145
STAY CONNECTED MIAMIHERALD.COM

FACEBOOK.COM/MIAMIHERALD
TWITTER.COM/MIAMIHERALD

WINNER OF 22 PULITZER PRIZES

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 6 2020

$2.50

Partly sunny with passing showers
84°/71° See 26A

Miami Herald

H1

THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL OF PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP

ACQUITTED

GOP seems split about investigating Bidens

After clearing President Donald Trump, Senate Republicans could investigate Joe and Hunter Biden during this election year. But some want to focus on Trump's actions on taxes and trade.

BY EMMA DUMAIN AND MICHAEL WILNER
edumain@mcclatchydc.com
mwilner@mcclatchydc.com

WASHINGTON

Many Senate Republicans are hoping that President Donald Trump will let it go.

But it might be the Trump campaign that decides whether to close the door for good on the Ukraine controversy that led to the president's impeachment.

Before the Senate impeachment trial ended Wednesday, Republicans were already expressing disagreement over whether to keep reminding the public that Trump asked the Ukrainian government to investigate former Vice President Joe Biden and his son.

Some lawmakers and White House officials said they hoped to put the matter behind them and focus on Trump's legislative achievements on taxes and trade.

"This is not the key issue for the Senate or for the House to work on," said Sen. James Lankford, R-Okla. "We have a lot of issues that we've not been able to work on for quite a while because we worked on the impeachment stuff."

Surrogates of Trump's reelection bid, however, appeared eager to weaponize widely debunked material culled by

SEE GOP, 9A

YURI GRIPAS Abaca Press/TNS

President Donald Trump tweeted that he would make a public statement today at the White House about what he called 'our Country's VICTORY on the Impeachment Hoax.'

J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE AP

Before the votes, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said: 'We ... reject this incoherent case.'

Senate Television via AP

Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, said President Trump's pressure campaign on Ukraine was 'abusive.'

The Senate acquitted President Donald Trump. Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, was the only Republican who voted guilty. No Democrats voted to clear Trump.

BY NICHOLAS FANDOS
The New York Times

WASHINGTON

After five months of hearings, investigations, and cascading revelations about President Donald Trump's dealings with Ukraine, a divided U.S. Senate acquitted him Wednesday of charges that he abused his power and obstructed Congress to aid his own reelection, bringing an acrimonious impeachment trial to its expected end.

In a pair of votes whose outcome was never in doubt, the Senate fell well short of the two-thirds margin that would have been needed to remove the 45th president. The verdicts came down — after three weeks of debate — almost entirely upon party lines, with every Democrat voting "guilty" on both charges and Republicans uniformly voting "not guilty" on the obstruction of Congress charge. Only one Republican, Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah, broke with his party to judge Trump guilty of abuse of power.

It was the third impeachment trial of a president and the third acquittal in American history, and it ended the way it began: with Republicans and Democrats at odds. They disagreed over Trump's conduct and his fitness for office, even as some members of his own party conceded the basic allegations that undergirded the charges: that he sought to pressure Ukraine to smear his political rivals.

But in a sign of the widening partisan divide testing the country and its institutions, the verdict did not promise finality, which members of both parties conceded would come only after the November election.

The president himself did not directly address his acquittal, but shortly afterward, he announced on Twitter that he would make a

SEE TRUMP, 9A

ECUADOR

Geologist exploring whether jungle trail leads to lost gold

Keith Barron has spent decades looking for Spanish-era gold mines lost in Ecuador's jungles. In November, his company found a forgotten trail deep in the South American forest. Could it lead to what he has been looking for?

BY JIM WYSS
jwyss@miamiherald.com

Stefan Ansermet was deep in Ecuador's tangled southeastern jungles, a hard, two-day hike from the nearest village, when he stumbled into a clearing. The change in vegetation was so subtle that everyone else on his team tromped straight through, unaware, but Ansermet was intrigued.

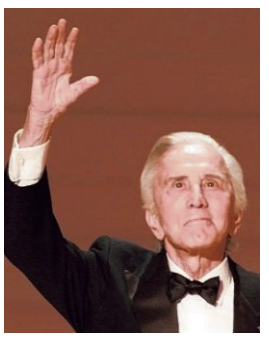
Over the next four days in mid-November, Ansermet, a geologist and explorer, kept returning to the remote area, finding clues that confirmed his suspicions: The narrow clearing stretched a mile and a half and had been carved into the side of the mountain at points. There was a large, chiseled stone embedded in the trail.

Aurania Resources

Gold dust sits in the bottom of a river in rural Ecuador.

"It took me a day to digest all the information and realize that this is not normal," Anser-

SEE MINES, 2A



DEATHS, 10A

KIRK DOUGLAS DIES AT 103

One of the last stars from Hollywood's golden age was a commanding presence in celebrated films such as 'Spartacus'

FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL

Trooper shot and killed on I-95 near Stuart

Florida Highway Patrol Trooper Joseph Bullock was shot and killed while assisting a driver on the side of I-95 near Palm City in Martin County. A Riviera Beach police officer shot and killed the suspect, FHP said.

BY MICHELLE MARCHANTE AND DEVOUN CETOUTE
mmarchante@miamiherald.com
dcetoute@miamiherald.com

A Florida Highway Patrol trooper, honored six months ago for saving a person's life, was shot and killed Wednesday morning on Interstate 95 in Martin County, FHP said.

Joseph Bullock

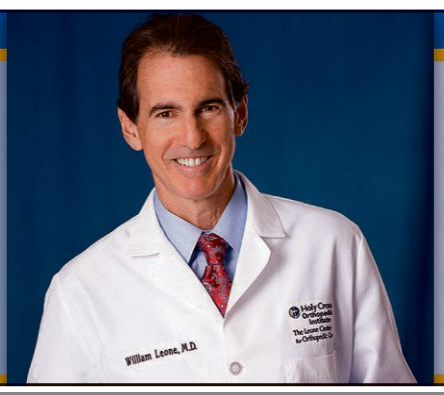
At 10:25 a.m., Trooper Joseph Bullock, a nearly 19-year FHP veteran, was shot near Palm City at mile marker 107, about three miles south of Stuart, according to the Martin County Sheriff's Office and the Highway Patrol. The crime scene shut down I-95 for hours.

Bullock was assisting a person in a "disabled car" Wednesday morning on the side of the highway, FHP said. The person in the car, whom FHP did not identify, shot and killed Bullock, FHP Col. Gene Spaulding said at a press conference Wednesday eve-

SEE TROOPER, 2A

CUSTOMER SERVICE
To subscribe or report delivery issues,
800-843-4372 or miamiherald.com/customer-service

Business	23A	Deaths	10A	Puzzles	20-21G
Classified	24-25A	Local news	3-6A	Television	22G
Comics	18-19G	Lottery	8A	Things to do	12-13G



Dr. William A. Leone
With extensive surgical experience, Dr. Leone has earned a reputation as one of the nation's top orthopedic surgeons for solving complex hip and knee issues.
Holy Cross Orthopedic Institute
The Leone Center for Orthopedic Care